THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI RAO INDERJIT SINGH): (a) and (b) During the India-Pakistan Expert Level Dialogue on Nuclear Confidence Building Measures held in New Delhi on June 19-20, 2004, the two sides exchanged views on their respective security concepts and nuclear doctrines. No discussions have been held with the Government of Pakistan or proposals made so far specifically addressing the idea of a common nuclear doctrine.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO UNSTARRED QUESTIONS

Export of coir products

400. SHRI A. VIJAYARAGHAVAN: Will the Minister of AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the increasing demand for natural fibres in global market;

(b) if so the action taken for increasing the export of coir and coir products; and

(c) the details of the coir and coir products exported and the amount of foreign exchange earned during the last three years, year-wise/State-wise and category-wise?

THE MINISTER OF AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES (SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) With a view to increase the trade with existing export markets and capture new markets, Coir Board is either implementing or proposing to implement schemes of Market Study Surveys, participation in International seminars and conferences, participation in exhibitions/ fairs, catalogue shows and Product Promotion Programmes. Besides, the Coir Board has moved the Bureau of Indian Standards and also the Ministry of Environment and Forests for acquiring ecomark labelling for coir and coir products. This will make the products more acceptable to the ecologically conscious Western countries.

(c) The details of the coir and coir products exported and the amount of foreign exchange earned during the last three years, year-wise and category-wise are given in the statement.

Statement

Details of coir and coir products exported during last three years

(Quantity in Tonnes) (Value in Rs. Lakhs)

Item	2001-02		2002-03		2003-04	
	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value
Coir fibre	1010.30	122.13	1036.87	103.80	1120.75	142.44
Curled coir	572.52	80.63	492.37	80.05	76.64	14.02
Coir Pith	13725.65	1014.34	21064.19	1493.00	29179.35	1975.92
Coir rope	348.64	108.04	332.40	102.05	308.88	111.46
Coir yarn	13206.90	3728.60	11482.48	2996.78	12364.43	3498.71
Coir Geotextiles	1752.05	780.13	2140.68	985.22	2599.54	1184.74
Coir Rugs	1329.97	1039.77	1327.08	932.41	1694.56	1071.36
Handloom Mats	26147.89	17009.85	33058.74	20711.80	36306.99	22133.69
Handloom Mattings	4423.27	2921.03	4772.63	3191.41	4545.56	2838.66
Powerloom Mats	686.51	458.19	954.85	585.52	1026.28	672.13
Powerloom Mattings	274.05	226.18	183.16	111.78	309.04	215.44
Tufted Mats	7129.54	4112.36	6429.05	3434.74	11772.50	6359.54
Rubberised coir	454.62	350.37	535.23	403.42	461.75	334.67
Coir other sorts	272.90	106.81	372.86	138.55	490.21	197.90
TOTAL	71334.81	32058.33	84182.59	35270.53	102253.41	40749.66

State-wise details of export are not centrally maintained.

Conference regarding ARIs and SSIs

†401. SHRI HARISH RAWAT: Will the Minister of AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether suggestions have been made to improve the monetary limit along with complete definitions of Rural Industries, Small Industries and Tiny Industries in the Conference of Rural Industries Ministers and Ministers of State for Small Scale Industries;

(b) if so, the recommendations made in this Conference;

(c) whether there is any proposal to amend the present law to implement these recommendations; and

(d) if so, the details of the steps to be taken by Government to implement the recommendations made in the Conference?

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.